(b) if so, what are the details thereof, stating the present stage of this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: (a) and (b) The Bombay Municipal Corporation are examining a proposal for the construction of a new road-over-bridge near Vidya Vihar, to be executed by the Railway on 'Deposit Terms'. They have not yet conveyed acceptance to the plans and estimate sent to them by the Railway.

Demand for fast local trains from Bombay

2280. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the last fast suburban local train leaves Bombay V.T. towards North at 20-40 hrs;

(b) whether there has been a great demand for more fast local trains towards Northern side, upto 22-30 hours; and

(c) if so, what action is being taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) the last S.29 Bombay-Karjat local train leaves Bombay V.T. at 20.44 hrs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Operationally not feasible.

Raissing the height of latforms at Bombay suburban stations

2281 SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the commuters of Western Railway suburban stations in Bombay experience great difficulty in boarding suburban trains, due to the wide gap between the platforms and foot boards of the trains; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to reduce the gap and increase the height of the platform usrfaces?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) A systematic survey has been carried out by Western Railway to identify the suburban stations where raising of level of the platforms is required to be done. Raising of level of these platforms is being done on a programmed basis depending upon availability of funds.

Robbing of Green Cards from Indians in USA

2282. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the immigrants or visitors of Indian origin to the US are increasingly being robbed of their green cards and passports;

(b) whether they include all levels of people, from the wife of an Indian correspondent to a visiting businessmen; and

(c) if so, what are the main reasons therefor, whether Government have taken up the matter with the US Government; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (c) The Government have seen some press reports in this regard. However according to the information received from our Missions/Posts in the USA, there are no indications to show that Indian immigrants/visitors are increasingly being robbed of their passports